

**Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to define the Department's goal of providing traffic safety and services on the state highway system. The operational effectiveness of the state highway system will continuously be observed and evaluated with regard to traffic safety and service. Safety and service deficiencies on existing routes will be identified and included in programs for improvement to be considered and approved by the Transportation Commission. Improvement programs will provide for correction of deficiencies through highway safety countermeasures, resurfacing, and maintenance.

The Department's highway safety activities will include a continuing program for the reporting of accidents, the analysis of accident record data, and on-the-spot investigations as a basis for developing localized improvements directed toward accident reduction and safer travel.

**Policy**

This policy applies to all highways under the jurisdiction of the Department. Improvements initiated pursuant to this policy will supplement and compliment the planning, design, and construction of new facilities in regular improvement programs. The Department's objective is to identify and correct existing and potential deficiencies at the earliest possible time, that is, before emergency conditions arise.

Results of the accident analysis program will be used as a basis for evaluating the adequacy of highway geometric standards, as well as a measure of the safety values to be derived from regular improvement programs.